

Idaho Trade Token Newsletter

Boise, Idaho November, 1997 Volume 1, Number 11

News

I have received a number of requests recently from individuals wanting to be added to the mailing list for this newsletter. Naturally, many of them also want the back issues. Several years ago, I read about a technique called "publication on demand", and thought it may apply here. The original concept was a bit futuristic—one example of its use was a book making machine containing a jukebox of disks from which the customer would make a selection after swiping their credit card through a reader. The computer in the machine would read the disk and print the copy to a high-speed laser printer in the machine. The mechanism would then apply a binding to the paper and dispense the book, literally "hot off the press".

My application thus far has been to write the newsletter, save it to disk, then print. I have tried two methods: printing with my inkjet printer directly on the green sheets (this uses up ink at a rather expensive rate and is slower than I like), or making a master on white paper before taking it to the local copy shop to have the newsletter printed on the green sheets. The addressing, collating, folding, and mailing steps are the same after that.

Bottom line is that I only make enough copies to cover the mailing list at the time. Going back to produce more (the publication on demand thing), doesn't work efficiently for me with the type of equipment I have. On the other hand, I want to let folks read what has gone before. Even though this is a newsletter, the news isn't exactly what your daily newspaper carries! So I will be instituting some changes in how I operate.

Those of you who continue to help me catalog Idaho tokens by letting me know about your finds, sending me tokens to photograph, making rubbings, writing articles for the newsletter, etc., etc. (you know who you are) will continue receiving the newsletter with no charge. For those who just want to be passive readers, I will suggest a \$20 contribution toward printing and postage. Back issues will be \$1.50 postpaid. This is not a money-making proposition, but I don't want it to become a money sink, either. What I really want it for it to be a joint effort where we can share knowledge about our common interests.

Now sit down:

Robert Higdem e-mailed me (as you can at jmutch@juno.com) with the price realized from Charles Kirtley's May 6, 1997 Mail Bid Sale for the Idaho City Miners Brewery & Bakery token. It was very dark and somewhat pitted. The catalog mentioned it may become the only recognized Civil War token from our state. The price realized: \$775.00. In my opinion, this token is not rare or even scarce as Idaho trade tokens go. It does have the distinction of being the oldest dated Idaho token, plus it carries a rich history. Its listing as a Civil War token just adds to the desirability and makes a whole new group of collectors want to add an example to their collections. Price is a function of demand.

Idaho Gold



Kendall Ballard and Robert Higdem wrote me about the two Idaho gold pieces which were in the estate auction at Placerville last July. Kendall had borrowed a book from the library of the American Numismatic Association many years ago and sent me a clipping from it. Unfortunately, he did not send a reference to the book and I could not figure out from the library catalog which

book it may have been. Here's the quote:

NOTE ON STATE GOLD

The following state gold from Idaho, Montana, Oregon and Washington are all extremely rare and seldom offered. They were issued by M. E. Hart Co., 560 Powell Street, San Francisco, California in 1914. These pieces are usually found only in the complete 36-piece Hart Sets of which approximately 6 were issued and of which 3 are known.

The Obverse of these series are all the same except for the name of the state. They depict a rather ugly Indian head, facing left, with a star on the left and right; the name of the state and gold around the head from the left to right and the date 1914 beneath the head.

The Reverses are all patterned after the state seals and there is no denomination shown on any of the sizes.

IDAHO GOLD

1914 \$1 Obverse: See note. Reverse: Based upon the State Seal which was adopted in 1891. Mountain ranges and the sun in the background, with the motto "Esto Perpetua" above the mountains.

Kendall interprets the above to say that the half and quarter dollar size pieces were available only in the sets. He recalls that perhaps as many as 250 of the dollar size pieces were minted. I have heard that California, Nevada, and perhaps Arizona were also represented in this series. I don't understand the 36-piece set item unless there were either two of each size in a set so obverse and reverse would show, or there were 6 or 12 states. Anybody have more details?

Robert Higdem reports that token dealer Bob Slawsky had several related pieces in his March 1997 Mail Bid Sale. The first lot was a 1914 Montana Gold 3 piece set with 1/4, 1/2, and 1 on the reverse of each. The sizes were 9.5, 10.5, and 12.5 mm. Slawsky attributed them to the 1915 Panama-Pacific Exposition. They were all BU and realized \$303.00 for the set. The second lot was identical but was from Washington. This set also went for \$303.00.

Here's a good deal...

And, thanks for Mike Fritz for suggesting I investigate a lead! As many of you know, I am very much in favor of supporting state and local historical organizations, so I have cooked up a win-win deal with the Latah County Historical Society in Moscow. They are one of the more active groups and print a fine quarterly, Latah Legacy, and have also published a number of historical books and pamphlets.

By joining the Latah County Historical Society for a year at a \$15.00 or more membership level, and while supplies last, they will give you a set of tickets which were used between various points along the Washington, Idaho & Montana Railway. There are over 40 different tickets in this set, each 1¼ by 2¼ inches printed on different colors of cardboard. I think they will make a very attractive framed display. Plus, you might want to investigate their list of publications (which you can get at a 20% discount for members). One I really enjoyed is Railroad Man: a conversation with W. J. Gamble, long-time General Manager of

the W. I. & M. It is a 16-page edited transcript of interviews with Gamble and includes a number of neat photos. It was less than \$3. Send your checks and request for tickets to:



Latah County Historical Society
Attention: Julie Monroe
327 East Second Street
Moscow, ID 84843

Joseph W. Pavich of Elk River

J. N. Pavich came to Elk River, Idaho in 1912 to work in the big Potlatch Lumber Company mill there. His chosen town was favorably situated on the Milwaukee Railroad in the heart of Idaho white pine country. First named "Trumbull", Elk River could boast for a time of being the largest town in Clearwater County. By 1915 Joe Pavich had saved enough money to start a business of his own on First Street in Elk River. He offered a complete line of clothing and men's furnishings. Later he expanded his store to include cigars, soft drinks, and billiards.

In October of 1919 Pavich bought the Otis Hotel also located on first Street, a half a block from the railroad depot. It had been built by John J. LeDuke in 1915 and had 13 rooms. Pavich moved his pool room and confectionery into the hotel basement and soon began remodeling for a restaurant. On October 31, 1919, the Elk River Sentinel noted that "J. N. Pavich has opened a first-class restaurant in his hotel. This is the only restaurant in Elk river and he will no doubt make a success of it." At the same time he dropped the Otis Hotel name and began advertising regularly as the Pavich Hotel and Pool Room - confectionery in connection.

The year 1923 brought new prosperity to Joe Pavich. In February he added 8 rooms to the hotel and in April he redecorated the original part of the hotel, laying new carpet in several rooms. In May Pavich drove into town with a brand new Studebaker "Light 6" touring car. Mr. & Mrs. Pavich and their daughter, Anna, enjoyed the new sport of automobiling, but they had a near miss the next month when he slid the car into a ditch beside the road 5 miles west of town. No injuries were suffered by the auto or its

passengers, however shortly thereafter Pavich traded the car for a new Studebaker "heavy 6" touring car!

In June of 1923 while Pavich was away on a trip to Spokane, his pool room was robbed. His manager, C. E. Ellis, was locking up at 8:45 p.m. on Wednesday, the 20th, when one of the two men left in the pool room pulled a gun and took a \$50 punch board and \$18.50 in cash. Ellis pursued the man but lost him after a short distance.

In February of the next year Pavich sold his hotel, pool hall, confectionery and all associated fixtures to W. L. Fitzgerald for \$8,000. Fitzgerald had previously operated the Elk River Dray Line and was a well-respected businessman of the town. He was proprietor of the Pavich Hotel until December, 1924, when he sold it to Richard Howlett. The hotel was renamed the Mountain Home Hotel and competed with Elk River's two other hotels, the O'Donnell and the Wilson. Pavich moved to Spokane after his daughter's school term was completed in the spring of 1924.

Readers of the Elk River News of November 13, 1925 were no doubt surprised to see the headline "*Joe Pavich Caught With the Goods*". The Spokesman-Review of Spokane reported that "*Federal prohibition officers smashed what is believed to be one of the largest liquor rings in Spokane Wednesday night when they seized 72 gallons of moonshine, a Lincoln car, and arrested three men at Browne and Pacific on charges of possession and transportation of intoxicants. The men arrested were Joe Pavich, proprietor of the Utah Hotel and Bar, W 203½ Trent, Albert Commellini, storekeeper at Browne and Pacific, and Joe Pushkarvich. The arrests were made when Pavich stopped his car at Commellini's store to make an alleged delivery. The officers are of the belief that Pavich was making the rounds to liquor 'joints' supplying them with stock.*" The Elk River News noted that this was the first time that Pushkarvich had been heard from since jumping bond a few years previously after being arrested in Elk River for selling liquor.

Pavich wrote a letter to the editor of the Elk River News soon thereafter with a clipping from the Spokane paper stating that after a hearing before United States Commissioner J. L. Dirks, both Pavich and Commellini were freed and the cases against them were dismissed. Unfortunately, this is where my trail of research ends; I have been unable to follow Pavich farther than this.



There are seven Elk River businesses known to have used tokens: Adams & Jadro Pool Hall, Ed. Allen, F. & S., Pastime, J. N. Pavich, Dream Confectionery / S. & Z., Spokane Pool Hall, E. O. Torgerson, and Torgerson & Kaaen. These account for 16 varieties, making this a fairly easy town to add to a "town" collection.

I know of three varieties from Pavich's business: #ELR-7 as shown is a 21mm brass piece. #ELR-7(A) is similar in style, but is for 25¢ and is a 25mm brass token. The third variety, #ELR-7(B), is 21mm aluminum and reads JOE PAVICH / ELK RIVER / IDAHO // GOOD FOR / 5¢ / IN TRADE. Only one or two examples of each of these varieties are known to me.

Quartzburg visit

You may recall that I had requested permission for those of us attending the July get-together to visit the site of Quartzburg, which is now privately owned. Since we did not receive that okay, we missed the opportunity. Since then, Dan Lute, Jack Burton, and I got the go-ahead to visit. We picked Thursday, October 23 and left Boise about 8:30 a.m. driving up through Horseshoe Bend and over the Harris Creek road. It started raining just before we turned off the highway and sprinkled off and on until we reached Quartzburg. At that elevation the rain showers turned to snow showers, but nothing was sticking to the ground. We poked around for several hours trying to figure out the orientation of the town from some old photographs we had. The pictures showed businesses and residences lined up on either side of the road, but fires, floods, and growth of vegetation changed the way things look now. There were a number of foundations and even a couple of wooden structures standing, but we were never really sure just what went where. On the way back to Boise, we drove through quite a hard snow shower. Nothing new for Quartzburg!

It's the Law!

Continuing from the 1891 Session Laws of Idaho, here is more of the liquor act:

SEC. 7. It shall be competent or lawful for any incorporated city or town within the county where such bond is filed and license granted, to prohibit the person so licensed, as well as all others, from engaging in the business of selling intoxicating liquors within the corporate limits until he shall obtain from said city or town authorities, such license as may be authorized by law and required by the ordinances and regulations of said city or town: *Provided*, That no additional bond shall be required by said city or town, nor shall any license be granted by the authorities of any such city or town to any one who has not filed the required bond with the board of county commissioners, and obtained from such board a license as herein provided: *And, Provided further*, That no license granted by such city or town shall run for any longer period than the license granted by such board of county commissioners; and the revocation of the county license granted by the board of county commissioners shall work a revocation of any license granted by such city or town.

SEC. 8. It shall be competent and lawful for both the county commissioners of any county, and also the proper authorities of any city or town situated therein, to require the payment of the licenses herein and by law provided, and the granting of the power to license or tax in any city or town shall not be held as in any way conflicting with the provisions of this act, the intention being to allow both the county and the city or town authorities to levy and collect a license for the sale of spirituous, malt and fermented liquors and wine as herein provided, and as provided by the charter and ordinance of such city or town.

SEC. 9. Every person with or without a license who shall sell or give away to any person already intoxicated any spirituous, malt or fermented liquor or wine, shall be guilty of a misdemeanor, and, upon conviction thereof, shall be fined in any sum not less than one hundred dollars nor more than three hundred dollars, or imprisoned in the county jail not to exceed six months.

SEC. 10. Any county commissioner who shall knowingly approve any insufficient bond, required by the provisions of this act shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor and,

upon conviction, shall be fined not less than three hundred dollars.

SEC. 11. The giving away of intoxicating liquor of any kind, or any other shift or device to evade the provisions of this act, shall be deemed and held to be an unlawful selling within the provisions of the same.

SEC. 12. Every person selling or giving away spirituous, malt, or fermented liquors or wine in violation of the provisions of this act, or without first having complied with the requirements of the same, shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor and, upon conviction thereof, shall be fined in any sum not less than one hundred dollars nor more than three hundred dollars.

SEC. 13. Any person engaged in the business of retailing liquors under the provisions of this act, who shall keep a disorderly house, or allow boisterous or disorderly conduct therein, or shall allow the peace and quietude of the neighborhood to be disturbed by loud and unusual noises therein, or threatening, abusive or obscene language therein, or by other means or methods, shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and, upon conviction thereof, shall be punished accordingly, and his license may likewise be revoked as provided in section seven hereof.

SEC. 14. The bond required to be given by the provisions of section three of this act shall be liable for the payment of all fines, costs, compensation and damages assessed against the person giving it, in consequence of the sale of intoxicating liquors, and contrary to the provisions of this act.

More to follow...

Best,

John D. Mutch
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